



SUBJECT: Mayor's travel for 2020

TO: Corporate Services, Strategy, Risk & Accountability Cttee.

FROM: Office of the Mayor

Report Number: MO-01-20

Wards Affected: Not applicable

File Numbers: 155-03-8

Date to Committee: March 12, 2020

Date to Council: March 30, 2020

Recommendation:

Receive and file office of the mayor's report MO-01-20 as information on the Mayor's planned travel in 2020 on behalf of the City of Burlington.

PURPOSE:

Vision to Focus Alignment:

- Increase economic prosperity and community responsive city growth
 - Building more citizen engagement, community health and culture
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Background and Discussion:

The Mayor will be travelling for the following engagements over the course of 2020:

April: Smart Cities Connect Conference, Denver, Colorado

The Mayor has been invited to join a panel discussion on community engagement at the Smart Cities Connect Conference this year. This event is focused on providing meaningful content and connecting a thoughtful community of decision-makers to empower smart cities at all stages of growth. They accelerate the adoption of smart technology solutions, aid in problem solving, and amplify city resources for the betterment of cities, communities, and their citizens. Her conference registration is waived due to her panel involvement.

The estimated cost of the Mayor's airfare, food and one night of hotel would be approximately \$1200, paid for from the Mayor's travel budget.

April 30-May 11 (TBC): Apeldoorn, Netherlands

As part of our city's mundialization program, it is required for the Mayor and a small delegation to visit our twin cities every 5 years. 2020 is a scheduled visit to Apeldoorn, Netherlands. The trip is also well-timed with the 75th anniversary of the liberation of Apeldoorn by Canadian (and other) Armed Forces during WWII and will coincide with celebrations there. The Mayor's travel expenses, estimated to be \$3000, will be paid for from the city's mundialization budget as per precedent.

June 4-7: Federation of Canadian Municipalities Conference (FCM)

Each year the Federation of Canadian Municipalities hosts a conference where municipal elected officials and staff are invited to attend from across the country. FCM provides an opportunity to shape and vote on advocacy items for the federal government which has, in the past, succeeded in federal commitments to significant municipal infrastructure funding and support for municipal initiatives. There are also professional development sessions and "study tours" where information and learnings are gained and brought back to share with colleagues and the community. This year's event is held in Toronto and the costs for the Mayor's registration, food (per diem), travel and accommodations (estimated to be approximately \$2000) will be paid for via the Halton Region budget as per precedent.

The cost of one staff member attending with the Mayor to provide support for the Mayor's activities as well as for their own professional development will be approximately \$900.00 for registration, paid for via the City's Government Relations – Conference Registration budget, and \$300 for food & regional travel (no flight or accommodations) that will be paid for from the Mayor's Office professional development budget.

July 12-20: From Compassion to Action – Mission to Germany, Poland and Israel

Started in 2010, Compassion to Action aims to teach Canadians about the potential tragic consequences of hate firsthand. The Compassion to Action initiative invites a select group of high-level, influential delegations of Canadians each year, representing a variety of professional backgrounds, to visit sites of the Holocaust throughout Eastern Europe. During their trip, participants are provided with opportunities to engage in

educational and meaningful discussions with experts in the field of Holocaust studies, allowing them to understand the Holocaust in a historical context while making connections to its continued relevance today. Compassion to Action is a unique opportunity for Canadian police chiefs, politicians, journalists and philanthropists to network and discuss how to combat hate and promote Friends of Simon Wiesenthal Center's ideals of freedom, democracy and humanity.

The Mayor will attend this trip on her own. There will be no cost to the city for her attendance as any costs over and above what is paid for by the Friends of Simon Wiesenthal Center organization will be covered by the Mayor at her own personal expense.

August 16-19: Association of Ontario Municipalities Conference (AMO)

The purpose of this conference is to bring together municipal governments from across Ontario to work together on issues of shared importance and to provide an opportunity to meet with provincial ministers and advocate on behalf of Burlington and Halton Region. This year's event will take place in Ottawa, with the Mayor's registration, food (per diem), travel and accommodations (estimated at approximately \$2200) being paid for via the Halton Region budget as per precedent.

One staff member will attend with the Mayor to support the Mayor's activities as well as for their own development, and the cost of their registration will be approximately \$900, paid for from City's Government Relations – Conference Registration budget, and \$1800 for hotel accommodations, food & air travel, paid for from the Mayor's Office professional development budget.

Carbon Offsets:

To help offset the impact to the environment of the flights included in these travel plans, carbon offsets will be purchased from Carbonzero, an organization that provides high quality Canadian-based carbon offsets to help neutralize and reduce unavoidable emissions. The estimated cost for the 2020 travel plan will be approximately \$150.

Financial Matters:

Estimated costs and allocations for the Mayor and team at this time are as follows:

Event	Estimated Cost	Allocation Budget
Smart Cities Connect	\$1200	Mayor's Travel Budget
Apeldoorn, Netherlands	\$3000	City Mundialization Budget
FCM – Mayor expenses	\$2000	Halton Region Budget
FCM – Staffer registration	\$900	City Govt. Rel. Budget
FCM – Staffer travel/food/etc.	\$300	Mayor's Office Prof. Dev. Budget
Compassion to Action trip	\$0	N/A
AMO – Mayor expenses	\$2200	Halton Region Budget
AMO – Staffer registration	\$900	City Govt. Rel. Budget
AMO – Staffer travel/food/etc.	\$1800	Mayor's Office Prof. Dev. Budget
Carbon Offsets	\$150	Mayor's Travel Budget

Total Financial Impact

Impact to the City's budget (mundialization, government relations and Mayor's office combined) is \$8250.

Source of Funding

As per table above.

Other Resource Impacts

Not applicable.

Climate Implications

Flights to Denver, Apeldoorn, Germany and Ottawa will have an impact on the environment. Carbon offsets will be purchased for those flights.

Engagement Matters:

N/A

Conclusion:

Report MO-01-20 is to provide transparency to the community on the Mayor's travel plans in 2020 while representing the City of Burlington at relevant conferences and mundIALIZATION activities.

Respectfully submitted,

Mayor Marianne Meed Ward

Report Approval:

All reports are reviewed and/or approved by Department Director, the Chief Financial Officer and the Executive Director of Legal Services & Corporation Council. Final approval is by the City Manager.